



News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Mayor

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Mayor Luttrell to Honor War-Injured Veterans

Eight soldiers from various wars, including World War II, will be honored at a ceremony this week hosted by Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. **"It's appropriate that we pause and pay tribute to these soldiers who risked their lives to defend our nation's freedom,"** said Mayor Luttrell.

The ceremony will be held on Friday, August 16th, 11 a.m., at Mayor Luttrell's office, 11th Floor, Vasco Smith Administration Building at 160 North Main Street. Honorees are members of the *Military Order of the Purple Hearts*, an organization chartered in 1932 for those wounded in combat. The *Purple Heart* medal is the nation's oldest combat award. More than 1.7 million service men and women have received the *Purple Heart* since World War I.

"These soldiers are an inspiration to their fellow citizens," said Robert Hunt, State Commander of *Military Order of the Purple Hearts*. **Being that Mayor Luttrell is an Army veteran, we especially appreciate his personal desire to recognize our organization,"** added Commander Hunt. The eight Shelby County honorees are:

1. Norman Lachapelle, World War II
2. Paul Cagle, Korea
3. Robert Baker, Vietnam
4. Ken Duncan, Vietnam
5. Roy Dozier, Vietnam
6. Wilson Foy, Afghanistan
7. Jake Romo, Afghanistan
8. Robert Hunt, Iraq

Since 2011, members of the *Military Order of the Purple Hearts* have been honored in 163 cities, 43 counties and 10 states. Mayor Luttrell's recognition ceremony is the first to be conducted in Tennessee.

(End of Release)